

Press Release

Texas Agricultural Statistics Service

P.O. Box 70

Austin, Texas 78767-0070

(512) 916-5581

On: TEXAS SPRING ONION PRODUCTION DOWN 1 PERCENT FROM LAST YEAR

For Information Contact:
Betty Johnson

For Release: IMMEDIATELY (July 9, 2004)

Austin . . . Spring onion production grown in South Texas is estimated at 3.5 million hundredweight (cwt), down 1 percent from last year, according to figures released by the Texas Agricultural Statistics Service. Total planted acreage totaled 14,500, up 13 percent from 2003. Texas' harvested acreage is estimated at 12,500 acres, up 14 percent from the 11,000 acres harvested a year ago. Yield is estimated at 280 cwt per acre, down 40 cwt from last year. Production in the Lower Rio Grande Valley is estimated at 1.95 million cwt, 14 percent less than last year. Spring production in the San Antonio-Winter Garden and Laredo areas is estimated at 1.55 million cwt, up 24 percent.

United States' producers harvested 35,300 acres, 13 percent above a year ago. U.S. production is estimated at 11.1 million cwt, up 17 percent from a year ago.

Onion production in Georgia is estimated at 3.8 million cwt, 72 percent higher than last year, while production in California is estimated at 3.0 million cwt, down 1 percent from last year.

-30-

TEXAS SPRING ONIONS: ACREAGE, YIELD AND PRODUCTION BY AREAS

Area	Acres planted		Acres harvested		Yield per acre ¹		Production	
	2003	2004	2003	2004 2	2003	2004 2	2003	2004 2
	<u>Acres</u>		Acres		<u>Cwt</u>		<u>1,000 cwt</u>	
Rio Grande Valley	8,300	9,100	6,900	7,800	330	250	2,272	1,950
Winter Garden/Laredo ³	4,500	5,400	4,100	4,700	305	330	1,248	1,550
TOTAL	12,800	14,500	11,000	12,500	320	280	3,520	3,500

¹ Derived to nearest 5 cwt. ² Preliminary. ³ Includes San Antonio, Eagle Pass and Coastal Bend areas.